

Mottram Urban District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

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OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

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FOR THE YEAR 1902.



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MOTTRAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1902.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE  
MOTTRAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mottram,

February 3rd, 1903.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Report of the sanitary condition of your District during the year 1902, with statistics of sickness and mortality on Tables 1, 3, and 4 as required by the Local Government Board.

Population—Census 1901 .....	3,128
Area in acres .....	1,084
Birth-rate per 1,000 living .....	20.1
Death-rate per 1,000 living .....	15.6
Zymotic death-rate per 1,000 .....	0.6
Death-rate of children under 1 year per 1,000 registered births .....	126

**BIRTH-RATE.**—During the year the births registered in the District numbered 63 (33 males and 30 females) and the deaths 49, exclusive of 1 that died in Manchester Infirmary, making a total of 50 (30 males and 20 females), which gives a birth-rate of 20.1 and a death-rate of 15.6 per 1,000 living.

The birth-rate is 6.3 below the mean birth-rate for the previous 10 years, and the death-rate is 2.2 below the mean death-rate for the same period.

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—Eight of the deaths registered were of Infants under 1 year of age, as compared with 5 for last year, and is equal to a death-rate of 2.3 per 1,000 living. Although this number is 3 in excess of that of last year, it is a fairly satisfactory infant death-rate for a manufacturing district, where the nursing-out system is common, the average infant death-rate for the previous 10 years being 16.3.

The decrease of the infant death-rate last year is, like the previous one, principally due to the total absence of Diarrhœa from the death list, no deaths having been ascribed to this cause since the autumn of 1899.

This disease is much influenced by insanitary surroundings, more especially in the autumn, after a hot, dry summer. In most cottages the back kitchen or scullery is also the store room for food. Tainted food, milk, and foul air, play an important part in the production of this disease, and the absence of deaths from it is no doubt in a great measure attributable to the prevention of escape of sewer gas into the houses by disconnecting slop stone pipes and trapping the drains outside the houses, which was so generally adopted a few years since.

There is also a gradual, but growing knowledge among the more intelligent as to the feeding and general management of hand-fed children.

The pamphlets on this subject by the County Medical Officer of Health, which were distributed in the district two years since, have also contributed to this desirable result.

Included in the total deaths at all ages were 3 Pneumonia, 1 Bronchitis, 8 Heart Disease, and 1 Rheumatic Fever.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—The number of cases notified in 1902 was 13, viz.:—5 Scarlet Fever, 4 Enteric Fever, and 4 Erysipelas. This is 3 in excess of last year, but is considerably under the average for the last 7 years.

**ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.**—Two cases of Enteric Fever only, equal to a death-rate of 0.6.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—The first case appeared in Mottram Moor on May 7th, a second in the same locality on the 12th, and this boy infected his sister in the same house a fortnight later. The disease was very prevalent at the time in Hollingworth, and as the two places are only separated by a boundary line, and all three



children went to school there, they undoubtedly contracted it either at school or by playing with other children from infected houses who had been prohibited from attending school.

**ENTERIC FEVER.**—The first of the 4 cases that occurred during the year was contracted whilst away from home. One of the other cases was attributed to the child being in the habit of playing near an open drain. I was subsequently informed by the medical attendant that this was a doubtful case of Typhoid. In the other two cases the source of infection could not be traced.

**ERYSIPELAS.**—These cases were scattered, with long intervals between their occurrence, and without traceable evidence of connection, insanitary, or other conditions, and with one exception (an old debilitated person, where the premises were damp) to young and middle-aged persons.

**WHOOPING COUGH** was prevalent in September. No deaths occurred.

**PHTHISIS.**—There were 5 deaths from phthisis, equal to a death-rate of 1.5, being a slight increase on the previous year of 0.6 per 1,000 living, but much below the mean death-rate from the same disease for the previous 7 years.

A request was made to all medical practitioners in the district for voluntary notification of this disease, but met with no response.

**CANCER** caused 3 deaths, equal to a death-rate of 0.9 per 1,000 living.

**ALCOHOLISM.**—One death, equal to a death-rate of 0.3 per 1,000 living.

Both these diseases are now included in Table 4.

**ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—Isolation is carried out as far as possible, and the parents of children suffering from infectious diseases are instructed to keep all other members of the family from school, and other people's children from entering the infected house, until the Medical Attendant informs them that all risk of infection is over. Printed instructions to this effect are also forwarded immediately upon receipt of notification, a copy of which will be found at the end of this Report. Information is also given to the schoolmaster. The premises are examined for insanitary conditions. Disinfectants are also supplied gratuitously during the illness, and the clothes and bedding subsequently disinfected.

**SMALL-POX.**—This disease threatened the district from Stalybridge in January. Bills strongly recommending persons residing in the district to keep away from that town, and advising re-vaccination, were placed in shop windows and other conspicuous places in the district.

**PROPOSED ISOLATION HOSPITAL FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF MOTTRAM AND HOLLINGWORTH AND THE RURAL DISTRICT OF TINTWISLE.**—A Joint Committee of representatives of the above Councils has been appointed to formulate a scheme for this purpose. A site has since been selected and approved by the County Medical Officer, and the land taken, and there is every probability of the building being erected in the course of a few months.

**WATER SUPPLY.**—The public supply is obtained from the Mancehster Corporation Arnfield Springs, and is good, and plentiful.

**MILK SUPPLY.**—There are no milk shops, the supply being obtained from the surrounding farms.

**LODGING-HOUSES.**—One only in the District, and this has been frequently visited, and found clean and in order.

**NOXIOUS TRADES.**—The only one of this description is a Knacker's Yard. This has been frequently visited, and found in a clean and sanitary condition.

**SEWAGE WORKS.**—The method of treatment is by tanks, filters, and land. The filters are acting satisfactorily, the report of the effluent by the Mersey and Irwell Corporation's Inspector being classed as good. The following is the result of samples taken at the Works at various times during the year:—

Mottram—Jan. 9th, 0.10—2nd on list of some 30 samples taken in other districts.

June 5th, 0.10—1st Ditto.

Nov. 10th, 0.31—7th Ditto.

**FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901,** which came into force on January 1st, 1902, consolidates, with amendments, all previous Acts relating to Factories and Workshops, makes considerable alteration and addition to the duties of District Councils. It includes the general sanitary condition of Workshops and Workplaces, and special regulations as to the sanitary conditions of Bakehouses, Provision of Means of Escape from Fire, the Keeping of a Register of all Workshops in the Council's District.

There are 29 Workshops in the District—18 in Mottram and 11 in Broadbottom. They have all been inspected and found clean, well ventilated, and with very few exceptions have considerably more air space than is required by the Act.

Two cases of Anthrax in Cattle occurred in the district during the year, and were promptly dealt with by the Police Authorities and all necessary precautions adopted.

**COWSHEDS, DAIRIES, SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.**—These have been visited, and in most instances have been found clean. In some of the Cowsheds there is still room for improvement in lighting and ventilation.

**PRIVY MIDDENS.**—Some progress has been made during the year in reducing the size of some of the large and leaky middens to reasonable dimensions, and rebuilding them in a more sanitary manner, by being made watertight, properly ventilated, and roofs put on, but the water carriage system is always recommended where practicable. A number of additional closets have been built in various parts of the District where the accommodation was insufficient. Important house drainage has also been done at the Black Bull's Head.

**REFUSE REMOVAL.**—This is done monthly by contract—about 1,400 loads of refuse have been collected from the houses and taken to the Council's tip. The Inspector reports having given 58 orders for abatement of nuisances, 53 of which have received attention.

**INSPECTION.**—Periodical Inspections of the District have been made by myself and the Sanitary Inspector, and sanitary defects noted and remedied.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. E. S. BURNETT, M.O.H.

Mottram, Feb. 3rd, 1903.







# MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

## GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

To be Observed to Prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases in all Cases, whether Mild or Severe.

1. Remove from the room all curtains, carpets, and clothes from cupboards and drawers before the patient enters it.
2. The Person affected should be confined in a room to which no one is admitted except the attendant, the door kept closed, and the outside of the doorway covered with a sheet kept constantly wet with disinfectants.
3. In place of using pocket handkerchiefs, use small pieces of rag for wiping the mouth and nose, so that after once being used they can be burned.
4. No waste food or milk that has been in the infected room should be eaten or drunk by any other person, but at once burned, and all milk and water used in the infected house for drinking purposes should be boiled.
5. A fire should always be kept in the sick room, and the discharges from the bowels and kidneys should be received into vessels with a layer of sawdust at the bottom, covered with disinfecting powder, and the evacuation covered with another layer of disinfectant and sawdust, and burned in the room.
6. Cups and other vessels used about the patient should be placed in some disinfectant, and then washed in hot water, and the water in which they are washed disinfected before thrown away.
7. The Window of the Sick Room should be open as much as possible, taking care to avoid draught.
8. A large glazed vessel, containing Carbolic Acid and Water (about 2ozs. to the gallon) should always stand in the room to receive the body or bed linen when it is about to be changed. And it should be allowed to remain in it for at least an hour. It should then be boiled, and kept boiling for a quarter of an hour, and frequently stirred with a stick, so that every part shall be brought into contact with the boiling water, then thoroughly washed and hung out in the air for a few days.
9. The Slopstone Pipes should be kept clean, and disinfectants freely poured down them, and the drains flushed and kept free and clean; the Midden emptied, and all refuse on the premises removed.
10. No children or adults should go from an infected house to any Place of Worship, School, or Public Assembly. Nor should any one be allowed to enter the infected house until the medical attendant certifies that all danger of infecting others is over, and the house and clothes thoroughly disinfected and cleaned.

### SCARLET FEVER.

1. No children or persons having had Scarlet Fever should return to school or business for 8 weeks from the commencement of the illness, unless the Medical Attendant certifies the infection to be over at an earlier date.
2. All children in the infected house should be kept from school, and from playing or mixing with other children, and before returning to school should have clean clothes, that have previously been disinfected and washed.

### ENTERIC (TYPHOID) FEVER.

The principal source of Infection in this Disease is in the evacuations from the bowels and the urine. The evacuations and the vessels used to receive them should be strictly treated according to Rules 5 and 6, and waste food and milk as per Rule 4, General Regulations.

### DIPHTHERIA.

This Disease is very liable to be spread by the breath, and care should always be taken to avoid kissing or bending over the patient, so as to inhale the breath. The precautions necessary as regards school attendance are those mentioned under the head of Scarlet Fever.

### SMALL-POX.

The patient, if not at once removed to a Hospital, should be isolated, and all persons living in the same and adjoining houses over 10 years of age re-vaccinated, unless protected by previous attack of small-pox, or having been re-vaccinated within 10 years.

The exposure of infectious persons or clothing in public is punishable under the "Public Health Act," and a fine, not exceeding **Five Pounds**, may be imposed for such exposure.

**W. E. S. BURNETT,**

Medical Officer of Health.

Disinfectants may be obtained on application to the Sanitary Inspector, Mottram.

# **URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.**

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## **PRECAUTIONS**

**Infectious Diseases in all Cases, whether**



